

Message Text

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11

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 COA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 FEA-01

AID-05 CEQ-01 COME-00 EB-07 EPA-01 NSF-01 OES-03

DOT-00 FMC-01 CG-00 DLOS-03 /090 W
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O R 100610Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6519

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 1701

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS EWWT IMCO

SUBJ: INDONESIAN INTENTIONS REGARDING STRAITS OF MALACCA

REF: STATE 29561

1. ON FEBRUARY 10, RPIOR RECEIPT REFTTEL, AMBASSADOR SAW MINISTER JUSTICE MOCHTAR ON ANOTHER MATTER. MOCHTAR SAID HE ALSO WANTED TO DISCUSS LOS MATTERS, PARTICULARLY SINCE SHOWA MARU INCIDENT. AMBASSADOR ASKED WHAT INDONESIAN INTENTIONS WERE WITH RESPECT UPCOMING TRI-PARTITE MEETING ON STRAITS OF MALACCA.

2. MOCHTAR SAID THAT QUOTE IF WE CAN BRING SINGAPORE AROUND UNQUOTE INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA WOULD SEEK TRANSIT ARRANGEMENTS INVOLVING SEPARATION OF SHIPS AND LIMITATION ON TONNAGE. TRANSIT ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE UNDER TRI-CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTITE AUTHORITY WITH AGREEMENT OF MAJOR USERS AND

WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM IMCO.

3. MOCHTAR ADDED THAT HE WAS VERY ANGRY ABOUT SHOWA MARU CASE SINCE IT COULD HAVE BEEN PROVENTED IF EARLIER PROPOSED TONNAGE RESTRICTIONS HAD BEEN ACCEPTED. HE SAID JAPANESE SO INTENT ON SAVING MONEY THEY WERE NOT PREPARED TO CONSIDER GENUINE DANGER OF NAVIGATION IN STRAITS. WHAT INDONESIA HAS FEARED HAD NOW HAPPENED AND RESULTS WERE VERY SERIOUS.

4. MOCHTAR SAID COST OF ALTERNATE TRANSIT THROUGH LOMBOK STRAITS WAS ONLY ADDITIONAL \$97,000 PER TANKER WHICH WAS SMALL AMOUNT TO PAY FOR GREATER SAFETY. WHEN AMBASSADOR ASKED WHY SUNDA STRAITS WAS NOT A BETTER ALTERNATIVE, MOCHTAR SAID ENTRANCE INTO JAVA SEA IS DANGEROUS. FURTHER PERTAMINA UNDERWATER STORAGE FACILITIES PRESENT ADDITIONAL HAZARDS IN SUNDA STRAITS.

5. AMBASSADOR COMMENTED THAT US HAD NEVER APOLOGIZED FOR RIGHT OF COUNTRIES TO INSTITUTE MEASURES FOR NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. US FELT, HOWEVER, ANY SUCH ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD HAVE INTERNATIONAL STATUS, SUCH AS WOULD BE ACHIEVED BY SUBMISSION TO IMCO. MINISTERS SAID INDONESIA WILLING TO LOOK TO IMCO FOR EXPERTISE BUT DID NOT WANT TO MAKE AGREEMENT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF IMCO WHICH IS CONTROLLED BY BIG POWERS WHO ARE ALWAYS ABLE TO SCREW WEAKER COUNTRIES UNQUOTE. INDONESIA DID NOT WANT QUOTE ANOTHER BOSPHELIAN UNQUOTE.

6. MOCHTAR WENT ON IN SAME DISCUSSION TO DISCUSS OTHER LOS MATTERS (WHICH BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY TO DEPT) IN MANNER WHICH INDICATED SHOWA MARU INCIDENT HAS NOT FUNDAMENTALLY CHANGED INDONESIAN WILLINGNESS TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH US ON ARCHIPELAGO AND STRAITS CONCEPT.

7. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH MOCHTAR IS PRINCIPAL LOS AUTHORITY IN GOI, BELIEVE WE SHOULD ALSO MAKE DEMARCHES ON SHOWA MARU TO FOREIGN OFFICE SINCE MALIK WILL REPRESENT INDONESIA AT TRIPARTITE MEETING. GIVEN WHAT WE KNOW
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OF MOCHTAR'S VIEWS, HOWEVER, WOULD BE HELPFUL HAVE FROM DEPARTMENT FURTHER ARGUMENTATION ON HOW RIGHTS OF WEAKER NATIONS CAN BE PROTECTED UNDER ARRANGEMENTS FORMALLY APPROVED BY IMCO. MOCHTAR IS ADAMANT ON THIS POINT AND UNDOUBTEDLY CARRIES CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT ON GOI CIRCLES. NEWSOM

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